Guadalupe, San Antonio, Mission, and Aransas Rivers and Mission, Copano, Aransas, and San Antonio Bays Basin and Bay Area Stakeholder Committee (BBASC)

Thursday, May 10th, 2012 at 10:00 am SAWS Customer Service Building Room CR 145 2800 US Highway 281 North San Antonio, TX 78212

MINUTES

Members Present: Chair Suzanne Scott; Vice-Chair Dianne Wassenich; Josh Gray; Mike Peters; Jerry James; Bill Braden; Con Mims; James Lee Murphy; Steve Fotiades; Thurman Clements; Garrett Engelking; Tyson Broad; Rick Illgner (for Karl Dreher); James Dodson; Richard Fritz (for Chris Hale); Eddie Seidensticker (for Mike Mecke); Walter Womack; Jennifer Ellis; Doris Cooksey (for Kim Stoker); Hope Wells (for Robert Puente)

Call to Order

Chair Suzanne Scott called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken and a quorum was reached.

Public Comment

Regarding an editorial piece written by certain members of the BBASC, member Jerry James commented that if those involved with the editorial are going to be in favor of environmental flow restrictions that would change future water law, it seems inconsistent that they would not support protections for junior water rights.

Chair Scott clarified that the purpose of the editorial was to support the use of the BBASC recommendations by the TCEQ in developing environmental flow standards, and not to comment on junior water rights.

Discussion and Agreement on Agenda

The draft agenda was approved as written.

Approval of Minutes from April 12, 2012

The members requested that the discussion between TCEQ and the BBASC regarding the proposed rules for environmental flow standards be expanded to better capture the comments by the BBASC members and the responses by TCEQ. The minutes were revised to better reflect this discussion. These revisions were distributed to the BBASC members. Members were asked to provide comments on the expanded minutes within a week's time frame. No additional comments were received and the expanded minutes from the April 12, 2012 meeting were considered approved by consensus.

Discussion and Approval of Draft Work Plan for Adaptive Management

During the April 12, 2012 meeting members suggested revisions to the draft work plan which were incorporated into the May 10, 2012 draft being considered today. The members approved these edits made since the previous meeting. The BBASC members, with one abstention by James Lee Murphy, approved the draft work plan.

Review and Discussion of Draft BBASC Letter to TCEQ regarding the SB 3 Process

The members reviewed the draft letter to the TCEQ, making comments and suggesting revisions. After revisions were incorporated the members agreed that no official action of the BBEST need be taken but members wishing to sign the letter can do so. The signees agreed to submit this letter as part of the formal comment process in TCEQ's rulemaking as well as directly to the Environmental Flows Advisory Group (EFAG) and the TCEQ Commissioners.

Member James Lee Murphy noted that GBRA is opposed to the tone and thrust of the letter.

Discuss Future Meeting Dates, Times and Locations

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for August 23, 2012 to be held in Victoria with a possible field trip on August 24.

Public Comment

Member James Dodson informed the BBASC that the San Antonio Bay Partnership (SABP) will be hosting a steering committee with stakeholder input on May 22, 2012. It was suggested to the SABP board that they sponsor a public meeting to discuss the proposed environmental flow standards at a future meeting.

Adjourn